

## Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ADP-00 EURE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 RSR-01

/139 W

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P R 201426Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6403

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 10350

SHAPE FOR INTAF; DISTO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, GW, US

SUBJECT: DEFMIN LEBER'S POSITION ON STATIONED/INDIGEN-  
OUS REDUCTION ISSUE.IN MBFR.

REF: BONN 10305

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1. DEFMIN LEBER'S PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MBFR (REFTEL), DURING AND AFTER HIS WASHINGTON VISIT, SEEM CAREFULLY CONTRIVED TO DEMONSTRATE CAUTIOUS MOVEMENT AWAY FROM HIS JUNE 7 DPC MINISTERIAL STRONG INSISTENCE THAT INITIAL MBFR NEGOTIATIONS MUST ADDRESS REDUCTIONS OF BOTH STATIONED AND INDIGENOUS ISSUES. THUS, LEBER'S REMARKS DO NOT REITERATE THE DEMAND THAT INDIGENOUS FORCE CUTS BE DEALT WITH IN MBFR-I NEGOTIATIONS.

2. BUT NEITHER DID LEBER EXPLICITLY SET THAT DEMAND ASIDE; HE DID NOT SPEAK, FOR EXAMPLE, OF TREATING STATIONED FORCES IN INITIAL NEGOTIATIONS AND INDIGENOUS FORCES IN SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS. INSTEAD, LEBER SPOKE OF TREATING STATIONED CUTS IN A "FIRST STEP" AND INDIGENOUS REDUCTIONS SOMEHOW IN A "SECOND STEP". BOTH LEBER PUBLICLY, AND A RELIABLE DEFMIN SOURCE WITH EMBOFF, EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO FIND A FORMULA ASSURING A "SUFFICIENT CONNECTION" BETWEEN THESE TWO "STEPS". DEFMIN SOURCE REFERRED TO NEED FOR ALLIED PACKAGE OR INTEGRATED PROGRAM; BUT HE ALSO INDICATED TO EMBOFF THAT SIMPLE AGREEMENT IN MBFR-I TO TREAT INDIGENOUS FORCES IN MBFR-II MIGHT NOT PROVIDE SUFFICIENT CONNECTION.

3. DEFMIN SOURCE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT LEBER'S STATEMENTS ARE DESIGNED TO REFLECT MORE FLEXIBILITY AND THUS REPRESENT DEFENSE MINISTER'S RECOGNITION OF STRONG CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES ON US TROOP ISSUE. FURTHER CLARIFICATION MAY BE FORTHCOMING AFTER LEBER RETURNS FROM HIS JULY 23-24 MEETINGS WITH LORD CARRINGTON IN EDINBURGH.  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** willialc  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS HILLENBRAND  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Authority:** willialc  
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**Subject:** DEFMIN LEBER'S POSITION ON STATIONED/INDIGEN- OUS REDUCTION ISSUE.IN MBFR.  
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